

Threatened and Endangered Species in Forests of Wisconsin

This publication was produced in 2000 as
a joint project of:

Wisconsin Department of Natural
Resources - Division of Forestry and the
Bureau of Endangered Resources,
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service,
The Nature Conservancy,
International Paper,
Stora Enso and
Plum Creek.

For more information, contact

Eunice.Padley@dnr.state.wi.us

and reference publication number FR-174



INTERMEDIATE SEDGE

(*Carex media*)

Federal Status: Not Listed

State Status: Endangered



Description: Intermediate sedge grows in dense tufts from 1 foot to over 2 feet tall, with many soft leaves clustered at its base. Its flowers, which bloom in late May to mid-June, are packed into tight heads at the tips of their stems. This sedge's most notable feature is the ebony scale beneath each flower which gives the plant a striking appearance.

Habitat: This sedge commonly grows in calcareous, rocky woods and shores from



Labrador to Alaska. Its presence in Wisconsin is surprising. This species thrives in the cold. Such conditions prevail in the algific talus slopes (sloping rock piles through which cold air flows) of Grant County.

Forestry Considerations: Harvesting trees in or around the talus slopes where this sedge occurs would remove the cool shade that it requires to survive. Where possible, maintain a 200-foot forested buffer around such sites.

